CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1.   A document processing apparatus comprising:

a display;

a plurality of user-accessible input points configured to generate input point signals in response to being accessed by a user;

an electronic readable memory device comprising descriptions of selected ones of the plurality of user-accessible input points in a plurality of languages; and

a processor configured to associate an input point signal from an input point with a corresponding description of the input point in a preselected one of the plurality of languages and to display the description on the display.

2.   The apparatus of claim 1, and further wherein the display is configured to display the description in a dot matrix text format.

3.   The apparatus of claim 1, and wherein:

the electronic readable memory device is characterized by memory address locations;

descriptions of the user-accessible input points are associated with selected memory address locations;

the memory address locations of the preselected language are stored in a separate description memory address location; and

the processor is configured to associate the descriptions of the input points by accessing the description memory address location.

1   4.   The apparatus of claim 3, and further comprising an access

2 connection in communication with the processor, the access connection configured

3 to receive signals from an external access device to thereby store the memory

4 address locations of the preselected language in the separate description memory

5 address location, and wherein the external access device does not comprise part

6 of the document processing apparatus, and further wherein the memory address

7 locations of the preselected language can only be stored in the separate description

8 memory address location by the external access device.

1   5.   The apparatus of claim 1, and further comprising an electronic timer,

2 and wherein:

3   in response to being accessed by a user, an input point generates the input

4 point signal for a duration of time equal to the time the input point is accessed;

5   the electronic timer is configured to measure the duration of time the input

6 point is accessed;

7   and, the processor is further configured to associate the input point signal

8 with the corresponding description of the input point in the preselected language

9 when a preselected duration of time is measured by the timer.

1   6.   The apparatus of claim 1, and wherein one of the selected ones of the

2 user input points comprises a user assist input point, and wherein the

3 corresponding description of the user assist input point in the preselected language

4 is a message informing the user how to access descriptions of the remaining

5 selected ones of the plurality of user-accessible input points.

1   7.   The apparatus of claim 6, and further wherein the processor is

2 configured such that, when the user assist input point and one of the remaining

3 selected ones of the input points are simultaneously accessed by a user, the

4 description in the preselected language which is displayed by the processor is the

5 description of the one of the remaining selected ones of the input points.

1   8.   The apparatus of claim 1, and further comprising an electronic timer,

2   and wherein the electronic timer is configured to measure the duration of time the

3   description of the input point is displayed, and the processor is further configured

4   to stop the display of the description when a preselected duration of time is

5   measured by the timer.

1   9.   The apparatus of claim 1, and further comprising an access

2   connection in communication with the processor, the access connection configured

3   to receive signals from an external access device to thereby determine the

4   preselected language.

1   10.   The apparatus of claim 1, and wherein the selected ones of the user

2   input points are defined by a first group of user input points and a second group of

3   user input points, and wherein the first group of user input points comprises a first

4   user assist input point, the second group of user input points comprises a second

5   user assist input point, and wherein the corresponding description of the first user

6   assist input point in the preselected language is a message particular to the first

7   group of user input points, and the corresponding description of the second user

8   assist input point in the preselected language is a message particular to the second

9   group of user input points.

1   11.   A method for displaying local language descriptions of a plurality of

2   user accessible input points of a document processing apparatus, comprising:

3   providing, on a machine readable medium and in the local language, a

4   plurality of descriptions of user input points corresponding to the plurality of user

5   accessible input points; and

6   in response to a user accessing an input point, accessing the local language

7   description of the user input point which corresponds to the user input point, and

8   displaying to the user the local language description of the user input point.

1   12.   The method of claim 11, and further comprising providing a plurality
2   of descriptions of the user input points in a plurality of languages; and
3   selecting the local language descriptions of the user input points as
4   descriptions to be accessed in response to a user accessing an input point.

1   13.   The method of claim 11, and wherein the local language description
2   of the user input point is only displayed after the user has accessed the user input
3   point for a predetermined period of time.

1   14.   The method of claim 11, and further comprising ceasing to display to
2   the user the local language description of the user input point after a predetermined
3   period of time.

1   15.   The method of claim 11, and further comprising ceasing to display to
2   the user the local language description of the user input point when the user
3   accesses another user input point.

1   16.   The method of claim 11, and further comprising:
2   designating a selected one of the user input points as a user assist input
3   point; and
4   wherein the description of the user assist input point comprises instructions
5   to the user for accessing descriptions of the remaining user input points.

1   17.   The method of claim 16, and wherein, when a user input point other
2   than the user assist input point is accessed by the user, the local language
3   description of the user input point is displayed only after the user has accessed the
4   user input point for a predetermined period of time, and when a user simultaneously
5   accesses the user assist input point and a second user input point, the description
6   displayed is the local language description of the second user input point.

1   18.   A document processing apparatus comprising:

2   a display;

3   a plurality of user-accessible input points configured to generate input point

4   signals in response to being accessed by a user;

5   an electronic readable memory device comprising descriptions of selected

6   ones of the plurality of user-accessible input points in a local language; and

7   a processor configured to associate an input point signal from an input point

8   with a corresponding description of the input point in the local language and to

9   display the description on the display.

1   19.   The apparatus of claim 18, and wherein each of the selected ones of

2   the user input points are identified to the user by a corresponding marking in

3   proximity to the associated user input point, and wherein the markings are not local

4   language descriptions of the user input points.

1   20.   The apparatus of claim 18, and wherein one of the selected ones of

2   the user input points comprises a user assist input point, and wherein the

3   corresponding description of the user assist input point in the local language is a

4   message informing the user how to access local language descriptions of the

5   remaining selected ones of the plurality of user-accessible input points.